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SRS MONTANA NEWS

SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

NUMBER 2 SUMMER, 1975 VOL. 4

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THESE PROGRAMS?
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MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Governor Thomas L. Judge
 Photo by Bobbi Gruel

STATE OF MONTANA

SRS NEWS
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Thomas L. Judge..... Governor
 Theodore P. Carkulis..... Director

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**Theodore Carkulis, Director, Montana
 Social & Rehabilitation Services.**
 Photo by Paul Miller

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Under Title 20, an amendment to the Social Security Act, signed by President Ford this year, each state may, with citizen input, design its own social services plan.

A series of statewide public hearings on Title 20 were just completed. In spite of the fast pace and heavy physical and emotional drain on those individuals who were involved in the hearings, many positives were gained. A note of commendation goes to the SRS staff and others who participated in the hearings.

It was obvious that the citizenry had done their homework from the standpoint of their testimony and questions to the panel. One of the most positive remarks made by individuals following the hearings expressed appreciation for state people going out to the citizens to receive their comments.

It is unfortunate that we are working on a closed-end appropriation for social services because the \$8.5 million allotted to the State of Montana for one year does not answer all of the needs as indicated by citizen input.

Final decisions will have to be made in a comparatively short period of time. The final date for citizen input is August 15, which leaves a short time until Title 20 goes into effect on October 1 of this year.

If anything could be stressed, it would be that this is really only a beginning. We will see a number of changes in the future insofar as a social services delivery system is concerned with the State of Montana. In spite of shortcomings pointed out in the proposed state plan for social services which we presented at the hearings, an honest effort was made to come up with a workable plan. The plan can be amended at any time.

**Edward Malensek, Administrator
 SRS Community Services Division**



Ollie Randall, known as aging's Great Lady.

Ollie A. Randall “Grande Dame of Aging” To Grace Aging Conference

The “grande dame of aging”, Ollie Randall, and Governor Thomas Judge will be the keynote speakers at the Seventh Annual Governor’s Conference on Aging to be held September 11 and 12 in Glendive.

Ms. Randall, from New York City, is described as one of the original leaders in the area of aging. A pioneer in calling attention to the special problems faced by older people in this country and in stimulating community action on their behalf, she was one of the founders of the National Council on the Aging (NCOA) in 1950. She was a member of the First Federal Advisory Committee on Housing the Elderly and of what was called the Commission on Chronic

Illness. Ms. Randall remains a member of the board of directors of the NCOA after being vice president for many years.

Other speakers throughout the conference will be Charles Banderob, president, Montana Senior Citizens Association; George Erickson, director of the state Green Thumb Project; Dick Disney, administrator, Montana Consumer Affairs Division; E. C. “Cliff” Brennen, professor of aging, University of Montana, and Virginia Kenyon, chief, Montana Nursing Bureau.

Ms. Randall, who will speak at the evening banquet September 11, has traveled extensively in this country and abroad study-

(Continued on pages 8-9)



New State Laws Guarantee All Rights To Mentally Handicapped

The rights of persons diagnosed as mentally handicapped are in sharp focus since new Montana commitment and admission laws became effective July 1.

The new laws guarantee that mentally handicapped persons will be offered care and treatment in the least restrictive setting rather than only in Warm Springs State Hospital, Boulder River School and Hospital or Eastmont Training Center. This means a person who is mentally ill or who has a mental disorder cannot be placed in a state mental institution unless he or she presents a danger to himself or to others and treatment and care are not available in or near the person's community. Similarly, a person must be seriously developmentally disabled and not have available less restrictive alternatives to be placed at Boulder.

Mental health officials in the Departments of Institutions and Social and Rehabilitation Services emphasize that if adequate alternative care cannot be found and institutionalization becomes the last resort, due process of law is guaranteed.

"This is important," says Janice Frisch, developmental disabilities coordinator for SRS. "People who are mentally handicapped cannot just be herded around without any consideration given to what they really need and want. No longer can someone just be picked up and committed against his will."

All civil and personal rights of mentally handicapped persons also are guaranteed

under the new laws. A right cannot be denied any individual unless it is denied by the court.

Perhaps one of the most significant guarantees provided for the mentally ill is the right to treatment, and, for the developmentally disabled, the right to habilitation. Habilitation means the acquisition and maintenance of day-to-day living skills which allow a person the chance to reach his fullest physical, mental and social abilities.

A five member board of visitors appointed by Gov. Thomas Judge will assure adherence to the laws affecting the mentally handicapped at the three institutions.

State officials predict that rather than continuing as long-term, custodial facilities the institutions at Warm Springs and Boulder probably will develop gradually into facilities for highly specialized treatment.

Different definitions of mental illness and developmental disabilities are distinguished under the new laws. Senility, for example, no longer is defined as mental illness and cannot be used as reason for confinement in an institution, according to a lawyer for the Department of Institutions. An Institutions official notes that about 300 of the 900 patients in Warm Springs are aged.

For more than five years concentrated efforts have been made to return people from Boulder to communities, notes Ms. Frisch of SRS. These people currently are living in their natural homes, foster homes, group



A little girl at Boulder River School and Hospital receives a helping hand in getting dressed.

homes, intermediate or skilled care facilities or in semi-independent settings. Others are productive citizens living independently.

Mike Morris, chief, SRS Developmental Disabilities Bureau, says more community-based facilities and services will be required. Residential alternatives such as group homes and foster homes will be important, he says, and more emphasis will be given to providing assistance for natural homes. Support services such as education, vocational training, advocacy and family services will complement the residential services, according to the bureau chief.

The new laws governing the commitments of persons who are mentally handicapped include the first major changes in those procedures in more than three decades. Legal procedures for declaring a person seriously developmentally disabled or seriously mentally ill and in need of admission to an institution follow basically the same guidelines, but they are covered by separate laws applying specifically to developmental disabilities and to mental illness.

In order for a person to be involuntarily committed to care and treatment because of mental illness or developmental disabilities, the new laws require that two hearings be held.

Before July 1, explains Nick Rotering, institutions attorney, the law only required that a family member or guardian ask a county attorney to issue a warrant of apprehension for custody of a person who was allegedly mentally handicapped. The person was informed of his rights, usually furnished a lawyer and brought to district court, but if he or she was "alleged insane", that person usually was then held in jail until two doctors agreed on the person's commitment, says Rotering.

"The other major problem besides the jail was that there was no further review in the (committed person's) whole lifetime unless he or his family appealed," Rotering adds.

Each law provides for a court to

determine whether there is probable cause to believe a person is developmentally disabled or mentally ill and in need of care and treatment. If probable cause is found, the court will direct an appropriate professional person to make a brief examination of and inquiry into the person alleged to be mentally ill or developmentally disabled.

If further care and treatment are advised by the examining professional, a hearing may be requested. If, after that hearing, further care and treatment still are deemed necessary by the court, still another hearing may be requested.

In the case of a person alleged to be seriously mentally ill, a jury trial may be requested.

If the professional person who does the initial examination feels the alleged mentally ill person is dangerous to himself or to others he may detain that person by court order.

If a person is found either seriously mentally ill, developmentally disabled or seriously developmentally disabled that person is entitled under the new laws to, first, be treated and cared for and, second, receive that care and treatment under proper and adequate conditions that hold as few restrictions as possible.

"It is significant," points out Ms. Frisch, "that through our laws, people in Montana do have the right to treatment and habilitation and the assurance of all other rights under the Constitution. Montana is now one of the few states to have these rights stated in law. Thus every person now institutionalized should legally receive appropriate care and treatment. In addition, his case should be reviewed monthly to determine whether continued institutionalization is needed and to make appropriate changes in his treatment plan."

By a real life example, Ms. Frisch points out what a difference the new laws can make in the life of an individual:

"In 1969 in Montana a baby girl with Down's Syndrome (a genetic disorder) was committed as insane and dangerous to Warm Springs State Hospital. A judge and two doctors participated in the commitment.

"The girl later was moved to Boulder River School and Hospital under the authority of the Department of Institutions. She lived there until 1974 when negotiations were completed which allowed her to live in a foster home. There she has parents and sisters. She attends school and is learning almost as fast as other children her age.

"The people involved in her commitment followed the appropriate procedure for that time. But it is extremely difficult to understand how a six day old baby can be insane or dangerous to herself or others. The only danger was that she was unable to meet her needs for food, shelter, love and attention. Hopefully this will never happen again.

"Hopefully people will not only follow the correct procedure but will also follow the spirit of the new law. First, all people are people; second, all people have common needs; third, some people have special needs which Montana law says should be met."



Montanans Asked to Expr On State's Plan for Social

Bearing in mind that Montana's need for social services vary from region to region, the Department of Social And Rehabilitation Services is finalizing the state plan for social services by soliciting the viewpoints of Montanans.

This marks the first time state efforts and citizen participation have been able to join forces to formulate the plan for social services offered through SRS. In the past, social services in Montana and the other states have been mandated by the federal government.

The change came about last January when President Ford signed Title 20 of the Social Security Act which allows each state, with citizen participation, to design its own services to meet its particular needs. Family planning now will be the only specific program required by federal law.

"Citizen input is important in the social services area because the people of Montana know the needs of our state better than any bureaucrat in Washington," according to Governor Thomas L. Judge.

"Social services are community based programs for individuals and families designed to minimize the problems and maximize the capabilities of all individuals," explains Norma Cutone, chief, SRS Social Services Bureau.

Throughout July public hearings were held around the state to present the proposed state plan and to record public opinion.

Complete copies of the proposed state plan may be read, through August 15, in all local county welfare offices. A copy of the plan may be obtained on a first-come, first-serve basis by writing: Edward Malensek, administrator, Community Services Division, Social and Rehabilitation Services, P.O. Box 1723, Helena, MT 59601.

The new plan will become effective October 1, 1975. Social services presently available in Montana include: day care for children of working parents or parents receiving job training; protective services to prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation of children and adults who are unable to care for themselves because of age or infirmity and have no one capable of caring for them; transportation and nutrition programs for the elderly; foster care for children and adults; projects involving youth to discourage delinquency and encourage juvenile rights, responsibilities and healthy, all-around development; homemaking assistance to allow elderly or disabled persons to remain in their homes rather than go to a rest home, and counseling for unmarried parents.

Under Title 20, social services may be offered to anyone who receives aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) or supplemental security income (SSI) and to anyone whose income does not exceed 115 per cent of the state's median income as adjusted to family size. In Montana the median is \$12,848, and the 115 per cent level for a family of four is \$14,775.



ess Ideas Services

Income-related fees must be charged people whose incomes exceed 80 per cent of the median and may be charged to people whose incomes fall below.

Funding for social services in Montana is on a 75 per cent/25 per cent basis with the state and counties contributing 25 per cent and 75 per cent being paid by the federal government.

The actual services to people in Montana are provided through local county welfare departments.

Under the day care program SRS licenses homes and centers and operates Community Coordinated Child Care (4 C's). Day care provides a qualified person to watch, teach, feed and care for youngsters. Any parents who need someone to care for their children, even for just a day, may use day care and pay according to their income.

The 4 C's program helps to coordinate day care and other child care programs.

Protective services usually apply to children and families. Systems for reporting, investigating and attempting to correct child abuse are included in protective services.

A hypothetical example of another type of protective service could involve a widow with two young sons who has terminal cancer. She has no relatives and wishes her boys to live with a foster family after her death. She had worked for years before her illness, so the boys will receive social security payments. They receive veterans' benefits because their father was killed in Vietnam.

Their grandfather had established a trust fund for them when they were born.

The mother goes through legal proceedings to have SRS designated legal guardian of her children upon her death. Therefore, until they turn 18 all of their income comes to SRS which deposits it where it earns interest until the children are of age. Any deposit or withdrawals are handled through SRS.

A similar hypothetical example would be an aged mother whose 40-year-old daughter is in Warm Springs State Hospital. The mother requests that upon her death, SRS be made her daughter's legal guardian.

To help older Montanans remain independent, active and in their own homes, several social services are designed especially for them. Homemaker services, for instance, provide a helper to come into a disabled or an older person's home to assist with such things as shopping, heavy cleaning, yard work and personal care. The helper provides company in addition to the assistance which may prevent such persons from having to move from their own homes into nursing homes or hospitals.

Social services for youth are aimed in part at keeping young people from developing into delinquents and at preventing misbehaving and problem youth from being labeled as delinquent.

The Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth, for example, combines young people and adults from throughout the state to study and discuss issues affecting youth and families and to encourage active involvement in the issues. Council members practice such things as meeting with city council members, testifying before the legislature and working with local government study commissions.

(Continued from Page 3)

ing and advising on programs for the elderly. Her articles on aging have appeared in professional books and journals and other publications.

From 1960 to 1970 Ms. Randall was principal consultant to the Ford Foundation's program on aging, special consultant to the New York State Joint Hospital Review and Planning Commission and consultant to the New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Problems of Aging.

The committees of which she is a member include the Committee on Aging of the Amercian Public Welfare Association, the Advisory Committee of the Federal Energy Administration, the Advisory Committee for the New York State Office for the Aging and the New York State Council of Recreation for the Elderly. She is a fellow of the American Public Health Association and an honorary member of the Gerontological Society.

Ms. Randall is an overseer and an oc-

casional lecturer at the Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare, Brandeis University.

She has been president of the New York State Conference on Social Welfare and chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Older and Retired Workers for the United Automobile Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

In 1964 she received an honorary Ph.D. from Mt. Angel College in Oregon and in 1965 her alma mater, Brown University, which had previously awarded her an honorary M.A. for her work with the elderly, granted her an LL.D.

In 1963 the NCOA established the Ollie A. Randall Award in her honor. Numerous other honors have been bestowed upon her including a citation from the American Association of Retired Persons; the Senior 65ers' Award from the retired members of District 65, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, AFL-CIO, and citations from the National Conference on Social Welfare and the New York State Joint

Registration closes September 1 for the Seventh Annual Governor's Conference on Aging to be held September 11 and 12 in Glendive.

According to conference planners in the Aging Services Bureau, Montana Social and Rehabilitation Services, participants will be limited to 450 and no tickets will be sold for individual workshops or events.

To register and make reservations, the following form may be clipped out and mailed to:

Earl Hubley, Director
Area I Agency on Aging
Governor's Conference Host
Hagenston Building
Glendive, MT 59330

Conference headquarters will be at the Jordan Motor Inn. Workshops will be held at Dawson County High School.

Sleeping accommodations in Glendive are as follows:

LODGING

Best Motel	1 Person—\$11.00	
	2 People—\$11.00	
	3 People—\$14.00	
	4 People—\$16.00	
Derrick Motel	1 Person—\$12.00	\$11.00—Older Units
	2 People—\$19.00	\$17.00
	3 People—\$20.00	\$18.00
	4 People—\$22.00	\$20.00
El Centro Motel	1 Person—\$ 8.00	
	2 People—\$10.00	
	3 People—\$14.00	
	4 People—\$16.00	

Governor's Conference Fun, Education and

THE 7TH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE
ON AGING
GLENDDIVE, MONTANA
SEPTEMBER 11 AND 12, 1975

HEADQUARTERS
Jordan Motor Inn

REGISTRATION (Limited to 450 Persons)

NAME _____
(If a group, one name here and attach list.)

ADDRESS _____

REPRESENTING _____

Registration fee—\$12.50 _____ Cash _____
speakers, all workshops, coffee breaks, con-
main addresses. Registration strictly limited.
EVENT TICKETS are available. Your badge is
necessary for admission to any and all conference
September 11, 1975 and ending at 2:30 p.m.
RESERVATIONS (\$10.00 deposit necessary)
(SEE ATTACHED LIST OF ROOMS)

FACILITY (Rooms being held for reservation)

1ST CHOICE _____

2ND CHOICE _____

3RD CHOICE _____

OF ROOMS _____ # OF PERSONS _____

DATE OF ARRIVAL _____

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGING

Legislative Committee on Problems of Aging.

Ms. Randall was a member of the Advisory Committee to the First National Conference on Aging in 1950 and recipient of its only citation. In 1961 she served as special consultant on housing, health and medical care for the White House Conference on Aging.

Registration for the Governor's Conference on Aging will open September 10 at the Jordan Motor Inn. The conference will begin officially at 1:30 p.m. the following day and will end September 12 at about 2:30 p.m. following Gov. Judge's noon address.

Seven workshops will be conducted and repeated to allow more participation. The subjects will be: "Senior Citizens—the Law and Taxes," Russell McDonough, Glendive attorney; "Eyes on Senior Citizens," Sharon Cromeenes, SRS Visual Services counselor; "People Helping People—Voluntarism," Regina Middleton, RSVP director, Billings; "What is Information and Referral?", Walter Marshall, administrative officer, SRS Aging

Services Bureau; "Public Health Insurance—Medicare/Medicaid," representatives from SRS and the Social Security Administration; "Fiscal Accountability—the Way the Money Goes," Jerry Foley, SRS Aging Services Bureau, and "You Bet Your Life . . . on Food," Polly White, nutritionist, SRS Aging Services Bureau.

Local senior citizens and the Chamber of Commerce will provide transportation in and around Glendive.

A dance and a picnic may be held, and conference attenders are invited to tour Makoshika State Park and the area lapidary displays.

Entertainment during the conference is being planned by Glendive residents.

Glendive is served by airlines, buslines and AMTRAK.

Further information is available from Earl Hubley, director, Area I Agency on Aging, Hagenston Building, Glendive, zip 59330 or by calling the toll-free senior citizens hotline number, 1-800-332-2272.

Conference Will Offer and Enlightenment

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE
ON AGING
MONTANA
SEPTEMBER 10
AND 12, 1975

WORKSHOPS

Dawson County High School

(Registration closes Sept. 1st)

Check. Includes two banquets and main
convention badge, copies of workshops and
admission to 450 persons and NO INDIVIDUAL
admission badge is proof of registration and will be
needed for conference activities beginning at 1:30 p.m. on
September 12, 1975.
(Maximum of 2 people to hold each room)

ROOMS PER ROOM

DATE OF DEPARTURE

AGING

Hilltop Motel	1 Person—\$ 8.00 2 People—\$12.00 3 People—\$15.00 4 People—\$18.00
Jordan Motor Inn	1 Person—\$ 8.50 2 People—\$12.00 2 People—\$14.00—Single beds in room
Holiday Lodge	1 Person—\$15.00 2 People—\$19.00 3 People—\$25.00 4 People—\$28.00 2 People—\$22.00—single beds in room
Parkwood Motel	1 Person—\$10.00 2 People—\$14.00 3 People—\$15.00 4 People—\$16.00
Main Motel	1 Person—\$10.00 2 People—\$10.00 3 People—\$15.00 4 People—\$15.00
Rock Log Lodge	1 Person—\$10.00 2 People—\$10.00 & \$12.00 With Kitchen 3 People—\$14.00 4 People—\$14.00 6 People—\$18.00
Rustic Nine Motel	1 Person—\$11.00 2 People—\$17.00 3 People—\$18.00 4 People—\$20.00
Uptown Motel	1 Person—\$ 8.00 2 People—\$12.00 3 People—\$15.00 4 People—\$17.00
Green Valley Campground	\$3.00—No Hook-ups \$3.50—Water & Electricity \$3.75—Full Hook-ups
Spring Grove Traller Court	\$3.50—All Hook-ups
I-94 Campground	\$3.50—All Hook-ups \$3.00—No Hookups
KOA Campground	\$3.75—Hook-ups .25—Each Additional Child .25—Additional Hook-up



Minetta Tokin and Penny

Photo by Betty Ann Raymond, Butte

She Didn't Want a Boxer, But Now . . .

Minetta Tokin did not want the boxer as her "eyes". She had just lost Tanya, a shepherd, and she had always had shepherds as guide dogs before.

But now she and Penny, her new guide dog—a boxer, are good friends and work well together.

"I was awful unhappy when they first gave her to me. I didn't want a boxer," Mrs. Tokin, who is president of the Silver Bow Association for the Blind, told Betty Raymond, women's editor of the Montana Standard in Butte.

"But I sent a tape to the trainer and said, 'This is the old witch that didn't want a boxer. I'd sure hate to give her up now.' "

Mrs. Tokin is one of only a few blind persons who uses a guide dog. In fact, national statistics say only two per cent of the sightless people in the country use dogs, reports Sam Larango, counselor, Visual Services Division of Montana Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Although a few years ago it seems it was quite common to see visually handicapped people with guide dogs, Larango says that

many people simply don't like dogs. Plus, having a dog involves extra expense for care and feeding. A dog also can be an inconvenience because it needs to be exercised and it can restrict a person's freedom.

"Many young people like the cane travel," he informed Ms. Raymond. "They feel more independent with a cane," He added that it is best to be able to use both.

Mrs. Tokin at one time used a cane, but for nearly 30 years now she has had a dog and so she feels more comfortable this way.

Mrs. Tokin is 68 years of age and has a heart condition that requires her to curtail exertion. Second Sight, the organization that trains the dogs and matches them to their owners, felt that despite her objections to the breed, Penny was ideal for Mrs. Tokin.

Penny was a seasoned guide and since was an adult, she had slowed down some.

Larango says use of boxers as guide dogs is becoming commonplace. Labradors and golden retrievers also are being used in place of shepherds which were so often seen before because shepherds have been found to have weak hips.

Preventive Medical Care Keeps Kids Healthier, Happier

Sometimes diseases or health problems in children go undetected until they have become obvious, serious and expensive to treat. This may be especially true in low-income families that cannot afford medical care even when it is absolutely necessary.

Early periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment, a Medicaid program known as EPSDT for short, helps prevent medical problems from becoming critical in children and young people up through age twenty.

Children within this age bracket whose families are eligible for Medicaid automatically are eligible for EPSDT. Even a youth who is not living at home but whose family still bears his or her responsibility and qualifies for Medicaid may use EPSDT, points out Bill Ikard, chief, Medical Assistance Bureau, Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. This is, of course, if the child does not have enough income of his own to disqualify the family. Children not living with their natural families (in foster homes or child care institutions, for example) who are eligible for Medicaid also are eligible for EPSDT.

Not only illness but also conditions bearing on eyesight, hearing and dental health are scrutinized and treated if a problem is found.

The program is free of charge to Medicaid recipients. It is operated jointly by Montana Social and Rehabilitation Services and the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. The health department is under contract to SRS to provide the screening services, and SRS administers the Medicaid portion of the program and provides babysitting and transportation services.

"We strongly urge everyone qualified to use EPSDT to do so," says Ikard. "Being healthy sometimes can improve a child's whole outlook on life, and being able to see and hear well can certainly help the child in school and in social and personal relationships."

In Montana about 15,000 individuals have been offered EPSDT since it began in October of 1972, and more than 50 per cent of them have taken advantage of the opportunities for the medical attention.

Studies by the U.S. Department of Health and Environmental Sciences and the national Department of SRS have shown that only about half of the more than 13 million children eligible for health screening saw a doctor or dentist before the EPSDT program was begun and that the only reason these children did receive medical care was because they were very sick or in pain.

The statistics showed that only five of every ten needy children would see a doctor within any given year. Six of ten would never visit a dentist during their childhood, and three would have serious emotional problems requiring professional attention.

The EPSDT program includes identification; outreach; general medical screening; checks on physical, mental and social development, eyesight, hearing, teeth, and follow-ups. Height, weight, blood and blood pressure, urine, speech and language development also are checked. Immunization status also is reviewed.

Two teams of nurses specially trained for EPSDT do the screening. If more extensive examinations or treatment are needed, the child is referred to his or her own physician or dentist or to a specialist.

Parents are encouraged to accompany their children to the screening clinic so the screening team can discuss the child's condition. A referral sheet is given to the parents if the child needs to see another health official. A copy is given to the child's social worker who will check to be sure the child has obtained the necessary medical care.

According to EPSDT statistics, 78.4 per cent of all children examined have received follow-up evaluation and care, excluding dental checkups and immunizations. Follow-up services also are covered by Medicaid.

One of the screening teams is based in Billings and travels the eastern part of the state conducting screening clinics. The other, which covers the western half, is headquartered in Helena.

Health department officials say that the entire state is covered every six to nine months. Clinics are set up in the largest population centers and children are brought in from the outlying areas.



MACCY delegates pretend they are Canadian citizens and act out situations involving natural resources in Canada. Here guest Sheila Vossen, Glasgow, and MACCY alternate Brett Shafer, Helena, take part in the role playing.

“Everyone Listens” When MACCY Members Meet

Members of the Montana Advisory Council on Children and Youth (MACCY) say they went home from their recent meeting in Fort Peck brimming with excitement over their learning experiences, particularly those provided by Indian participants.

“The Indian people planned and developed their own program with no help or interference from the whites,” enthused Clark Welch, MACCY coordinator, Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. “It wasn’t the usual situation where Indians are invited to a meeting and then grilled by whites about things whites think they want to know. The Indian people shared with MACCY what they wanted us to learn about their culture and concerns—things they thought we might not know and so wouldn’t be able to ask about. We learned an awful lot! They were very frank and very friendly.”

It was the first time Indian people in any significant number have participated in MACCY. The June meeting in Fort Peck also marked the first time Canadian neighbors participated.

Issues and answers concerning children and youth in eastern Montana, in Canada and on Indian reservations in the eastern part

of the state provided the crux of the meeting.

In addition to MACCY members and guests, participants included native Americans from the Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, Rocky Boy and Crow Indian reservations and Canadian youth workers from Saskatchewan.

The meetings began by getting to know Fort Peck and the surrounding area. A tour of Fort Peck Dam prompted recollections that a photograph of the dam appeared on the front cover of the first issue of *Life* magazine dated Nov. 23, 1936.

The first evening’s activities began with Twilia Stafne saying the Lord’s Prayer in Indian sign language.

Four native American learning centers were set up that evening to share with MACCY the Indians’ culture and concerns. At one center participants could taste Indian food including meat soup with corn and dried, wild turnips, chokecherry soup and fry bread. That center was manned by Phillip Granbois, counselor for the Hope Ranch, an Indian care center sponsored by the Sioux and Assinboine tribes on the Fort Peck Reservation.

At another center young, Indian people discussed their problems on the reservation and the difficulties they have faced in moving



From left to right: Les Ferguson, Indian 4-H director, Saskatchewan; Charlie McCarthy, SRS Youth Development Bureau chief, Helena; Bruce Calvert, MACCY member, Butte, and Gerry Fenn, MACCY coordinator, Bozeman, share a meal and some laughter.

between reservation and non-reservation life. Leading the discussion were Thomas Gone, Sherman Boxer and Verna Red Bear, members of the Wambidi-Ota youth club, and Betsey Red Bear, club sponsor.

Indian craftwork was displayed by Walter and Ruby White and their children, Walter and Lulu, of Poplar. The Whites run the Dakota Market for which even the children make handmade items to sell.

Indians concerns and feelings were expressed during an exchange with MACCY members led by Jacob Bighorn, Jr., Jackie Craft and George Redstone.

The following morning it was the Canadians' turn. Through imagination they transformed all the participants into Canadian citizens for the morning so everyone could see the children and youth situation from the Canadian point of view.

Canadian participants included Glen Haas, supervisor, and Les Ferguson, coordinator, 4-H Indian Program, Saskatchewan, and Jocelyn Forseille and Lynn McKellar, 4-H extension assistants and students at the University of Saskatchewan.

Arnold Malone, minister of Parliament from Ottawa who is a professional youth worker, had been invited to speak, but he telephoned his greetings and said that important sessions of Parliament were preventing him from coming to Fort Peck.

His topic and that of those who were able to attend dealt with "Children and Youth Issues and Answers as Affected and Effected by Legislation". Other speakers were Barbara Hauge, MACCY member from Turner; Sen. Greg Jergeson, Chinook, and Rep. Ernest Kummerfeldt, Nashua. Messages also arrived from Senators Thomas Towe, Billings, and Robert Brown, Whitefish, who had been invited but were unable to attend.

A "What's Happening Fair" was set up Saturday afternoon on the porch of the old Fort Peck Hotel. Organized by MACCY youth from Glendive, the fair exhibited "positive" programs affecting children, youth and families in eastern Montana and Canada. Among the displays were presen-



A picnic brings young and old together.

tations on the Hope Ranch for Indian children, the Rocky Boy (all) Indian school board, Montana Farmers Union programs for children and youth, Saskatchewan Indian 4-H projects and the Brush Lake Camp for the retarded.

A cookout that evening demonstrated one way of bringing a family together as a means of facing issues concerning children and youth.

MACCY meetings are planned to be stimulating and fun and to encourage young people to involve themselves actively in their concerns. MACCY member Duane Thexton, high school student from Ennis, describes the Council:

In the MACCY meetings the experience and realism of the adults and the daring and Idealism of youth are mixed together to build programs and make recommendations to the people of Montana, stimulate better coordinating among agencies concerned with children and youth and consider ways to create better life styles for young people. In these meetings you also learn about government and the life styles of different places in Montana.

These meetings are unique in that a lot of work is done in small, not large, groups. This way there can be more input. Another unique part of the meetings is that everybody listens to what the other person has to say and nobody is 'put down' for what they say, unlike most meetings where people of all age groups are involved.

All in all, these meetings are fun and educational for everyone involved.



The Goal of EMI Is Satisfying Work For the Handicapped

Evaluation and training for handicapped persons with the goal in mind of satisfying and remunerative employment is what Eastern Montana Industries (EMI) strives to accomplish.

EMI serves a 16 county region in eastern Montana. The main facility is in Miles City with satellites in Malta and Sidney.

Recently the facility at Miles City moved into a new and larger building, and the main speaker for the open house was Bob Donaldson, administrator, Rehabilitative Services Division, Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

In Miles City there are three programs. The work-activity program teaches work and socialization skills for handicapped persons. The work adjustment training program provides actual job training and instructs participants in the development of proper work habits. The result of this program is a job.

The work sample-evaluation program measures a person's interest, capabilities and suitabilities for various kinds of work. A mobile evaluation unit traverses the area served by EMI to deliver attitude and aptitude tests which demonstrate a person's skills, work habits, communications efficiencies and on-the-job behavior.



Ron Ruppe, executive director of EMI, has mentioned that new state laws calling for deinstitutionalization will spur the growth of EMI.

Says Dave Swogger, mobile unit evaluator, "We provide services here in Miles City which are not available at Boulder and at a price that is lower than institutionizing a client in Boulder."

The satellite facilities in Malta and Sidney both are work-activity centers.

DAV Chooses New Officers

A June meeting of Montana's Disabled American Veterans culminated in the election of officers and the adoption of two resolutions.

Don Seidel, Lewistown, was selected as the new DAV commander. Other new officers include: Charlie Davis, Great Falls, first senior vice commander; John DenHerder, Helena, first junior vice commander; Bruno Lencioni, Butte, second junior vice commander; John Sloan, Helena, adjutant-treasurer, and John McGlynn, Whitehall, judge advocate.

One of the DAV resolutions is to remove

veterans from the poverty level by amplifying restrictions on pensions that are not service related in order that nonservice connected pensions may be drawn by eligible, single veterans whose annual income does not exceed \$3,600 and by eligible veterans with one or more dependents whose annual income does not exceed \$4,800.

The other resolution urges Congressmen to support legislation that would expand the Veterans Administration's hospitals at Fort Harrison and Miles City to be able to provide protracted nursing home care.

ARE YOU ONE OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF MONTANA 55 YEARS OR OLDER...

Who has taken advantage of the "Wonderful World of Services" available to you simply by dialing...

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All of these calls come from Senior Citizens.

Aging Services was successful in following through and resolving the difficulty involved! It's so easy! All you have to do is Dial 1-800-332-2272, toll free, day or night!

Inquiries and requests are processed at six areas located in Helena, Conrad, Kalispell, Anaconda, Roundup and Glendive. Aging Services Bureau does not finally resolve your problem but has quick access to the qualified agency which will channel your inquiry to the one that can best come up with the solution.

HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES . . .

Of the type of inquiries which are received from Senior Citizens:

Regarding late Social Security checks; late or incorrect welfare checks; food stamps; Medicare; home health aid; transportation programs; health screening; problems with S.S.I.; problems of isolation; shopping assistance; need of medical attention and just plain lonely!

**THIS IS A MODEL PROJECT OF AGING SERVICES, A
BUREAU OF S.R.S.**

Income Reporting Required

People getting supplemental security income checks are reminded that any change in their income should be reported to a social security office.

Jack Sharp, social security district manager in Helena, says the right to SSI checks, as well as the amount of those checks, can be affected by changes in income whether the income is earned or unearned.

"People getting SSI checks should make a prompt report to a social security office whenever their income from any source

increases or decreases or whenever they expect such a change," Sharp says.

He says that examples of income changes that must be reported include increases or decreases in government pensions or annuities such as Veterans Administration payments or compensation, civil service retirement annuities, railroad retirement benefits and military retirement benefits.

Anyone wanting more information about this income reporting requirement can call or write any social security office.



Work has begun on the new SRS office building in Helena. The architect's drawing shows how the building will look when completed next year.

Construction In Progress On SRS Building

All of the Helena offices of Social and Rehabilitation Services will be combined under one roof in the Capitol complex when the new building is completed in the fall of 1976.

Currently scattered throughout the city are the eight divisions of SRS: Centralized Services, Economic Assistance, Field Services, Rehabilitative Services, Staff Development, Veterans Affairs and Visual Services.

The 50,000-square-foot building will cost about \$1,114,241 for general construction, about \$214,990 for mechanical work and about \$111,300 for electrical work.

Ken Knight of Great Falls is the architect.

The 1974 Legislature allowed SRS to enter into a rental contract, with an option to purchase, for up to 20 years which has enabled the agency to build. The federal government eventually will pick up about two-thirds of the total costs, excluding construction, since it will aid in rental of space by SRS.

Work on the building began in July.



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